



# BRYANT'S BUSINESS

Monday, March 3, 1986

Bryant College, Smithfield, RI

Volume 5, Number 4

## The "Swimming Sweeneys"

They may not be as well known as the "Flying Wallendas." But the "Swimming Sweeneys" have made a big splash of their own in Bristol.

Bill Sweeney, professor of economics, and his wife, Donna, have provided the incentive for all seven of their children to take to the water. Bill and Donna, both avid swimmers, introduced their children to the water at a very early age—the youngest at eight months.

The Sweeney children, Deirdre, 25; Maura, 24; Patrick, 22; Siobhan, 20; Eileen, 18; Chip, 17; and Timmy, 9, have grown up in a house where swimming is second only to breathing. They all share a dedication and love for the water. Their careers in swimming have ranged from competitive swimming at the Y, to college competition, to local swimming events and races, to swimming for exercise, to coaching, to working as a life guard, and so on.

Donna Sweeney, a great motivator for her children, got her feet wet at an early age at the Union Street Beach in Bristol. She remembers joining the Girl Scouts for lifesaving.

"I think they've all gained persistence and self discipline. They've had to plan for swim and travel time, yet still maintain their school work," says Donna, who has made countless trips back and forth to the Y and assorted swimming meets.

Bill, a better than average swimmer himself at

LaSalle Academy from 1951-53, showed exceptional skill in the 100 freestyle. After LaSalle he went on to star at Providence College for three years, where he captained the Friars. Bill's forte was the 100 freestyle, but he was also involved in the relay races. Since then he has served on various committees at the Y and helps Donna transport the kids, not to mention being a principal cheerleader at poolside.

Swimming is still part of Bill's regular routine. He swims at Bryant, and during the summer covers three-quarters of a mile at Hopeworth Beach. He also enjoys the Rumstick Point to Bristol Town Beach swim, where he has competed many times. He has participated as a rower there on other occasions.

The "Swimming Sweeneys" have been dipping their toes in the water as long as they can remember. And there are no plans to stop. As Bill says, "One of the great beauties of swimming is that it is something you can do the rest of your life. You can't say that about other sports."

## Humanities group forming

It is hoped that a new association for humanists in Rhode Island will be born tonight at Bryant.

A steering committee of "friends of the humanities," which includes Professors Mary Lyons and Bill Haas, is sponsoring an organizational dinner and an address by a Yale University faculty member. The event begins at 5 p.m. in the MRC lecture hall with a welcome by the Hon. Florence Murray, associate justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court and a former Bryant trustee.

John Herington, Talcott Professor of Greek at Yale, is the keynote speaker. He will discuss "The Relevance of Early Greek Poetry" at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner and discussion in Gulski Dining Room follows the address. Cost is \$10.50 for dinner. The talk is free if you just want to hear Herington.

Approximately 50 persons are expected to attend the organizational meeting for an association to be concerned with "pure humanities, not its application," said Mary Lyons. She described the group as a "back to basics" organization.

Bill Haas is coordinating the event.



The "Swimming Sweeneys" - (seated) Bill, Eileen, Timmy, Donna, (standing) Chip, Kevin Coffey, Deirdre Sweeney Coffey, Maura, Siobhan, and Patrick.





# God, government forums to debut

A series of four public forums that is expected to be one of the most exciting ever at Bryant debuts this month.

The series, titled "God and Government: On the Appropriate Role Between Religious Beliefs and Public Policy," brings to campus a distinguished group of national speakers and local panelists. They will present their views and fuel debate on issues such as prayer in school, abortion, and government aid to religious schools.

Forum dates are March 18 and 26 and April 9 and 16. Each begins at 7 p.m. in Janikies Auditorium. The titles of the individual forums, respectively, are: "To What Extent Should Religion Influence Public Policy?"; "The First Amendment and the Third Commandment"; "Issues in the Separation of Church and State," and "Religious Fundamentalism vs. Secular Humanism."

National speakers include Father Robert Drinan, former Massachusetts congressman and now a Georgetown University law professor; Cal Thomas, a syndicated columnist who has been national spokesman for the Moral Majority; Anthony Podesta, president of People for the American Way; Edwin Firmage, a descendant of Brigham Young and a former Mormon Church official who

teaches law at the University of Utah; and Paul Kurtz, editor of "Free Inquiry" magazine and professor of philosophy at SUNY-Buffalo.

Local participants include former state governor J. Joseph Garrahy; ACLU executive director Steven Brown; Rabbi David Rosen, of Temple Torat Yisrael in Cranston; the Rev. Errol Hunt, of Hood Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church in Providence; Professor William Haas, Bryant's coordinator of humanities; Professor William McLoughlin, of Brown University's history department; and the Rev. James Prest, of Providence College's religious studies department.

Moderating the April forums, which will be debates, are Suda Prohaska, press secretary to Attorney General Arlene Violet, and Sara Wye, a news commentator for WJAR-TV.

Bryant is funding the series along with the Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities (RICH), a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Professors Bill Hill and Joan Marsella are organizing and coordinating the series.

The March 17 issue of *Bryant's Business* will carry additional details about the forums in March.

## Bryant helping Chamber go high tech

Bryant is helping to bring the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce into the high-tech world.

Specifically, Joe Guay, director of academic computing at Bryant, has been acting as an adviser and consultant to the Chamber as it explored and purchased a computer system (hardware and software) for the organization.

Guay now is helping the Chamber to create an accounting system and a data base for its membership files and other activities.

Perhaps more important, Guay's activities to date are considered just a start of what is expected to be a long-term, ongoing relationship with the Chamber.

Other ideas already being explored are the Chamber taking a Bryant intern each semester to help the organization enter data and upgrade and expand the data base, and working with other Bryant staff in developing an economic model for Rhode Island.

An internship at the Chamber each semester seems very certain, said Guay, who is already working with a work-study student on this project.

Guay said he has been working closely with the Chamber since last fall. He expects to remain as the coordinator of this program and as a liaison with the Chamber in the future as it goes high tech.

## Students get alumni-aid

"What can I do with my major?"

This is a question commonly asked by undergraduates at Bryant. So in late February, four alumni management majors tried to help students answer this question. They spoke at a "Careers in... Management" seminar sponsored by the Office of Career Services.

Alumni included Susan Mattarocci '79, manager of consumer services for American Tourister; John Lipa '68, manager of union relations for

General Electric; David Wall '74 MBA, senior vice-president for Rhode Island Hospital Trust National Bank; and Joseph Winthrop '79, branch manager for Computer Assistance International, Inc.

The alumni gave information to students on their job responsibilities, the advantages and disadvantages of their positions, their working environments, necessary skills to obtain during the Bryant years, and their career paths.



## Phonothon heads for finish; trip, prizes await

Tonight is your last chance to qualify to compete for a week-long trip to Puerto Rico.

San Juan is the top prize for the top caller of the annual Bryant Fund Spring Phonothon, which has been going on on campus over the last couple of weeks. The final competition for the trip takes place tomorrow night. So if you want a shot at a sunny and warm vacation, join your colleagues and students tonight.

The phonothon runs from 6 to 9 p.m. Dinner is provided. Come to Room 386 A&B and look for Tony Piotti, director of annual giving. He is always looking for a few extra callers to volunteer time on the telephone.

Goal for the Bryant Fund this year is \$800,000. An added incentive is the \$163,000 challenge grant from the C.V. Starr Foundation, which Bryant must match to receive. Through the first five phonothon nights, said Piotti, more than \$19,500 had been raised.

Two fraternities, Kappa Delta Rho and Beta Sigma Chi, continue to vie for a \$200 prize going to the organization raising the most money. The

Greeks lead that separate competition, Piotti said.

Think about tonight. It's your last chance to take a shot at San Juan. Who knows? By late tomorrow night, you could be on your way to Puerto Rico.

## SNEAC to talk baseball

Baseball is the focus of the dinner meeting tomorrow night of the Southeastern New England Alumni Chapter (SNEAC) of Bryant.

Ben Mondor, popular owner of the Pawtucket Red Sox, will address the 6 p.m. event at the Rhode Island Inn in Warwick. Tickets are \$20 per person. A cash-bar cocktail hour precedes the buffet dinner.

Call the Office of Alumni Relations at ext. 6040 for more information. You still might be able to get squeezed in.

## Seniors to get housing strategy

The Senior Survival Program at Bryant continues tomorrow night with a program titled "Condominium or Apartment: What's Best for You?".

Sponsored by the Student Alumni Association, the program will explain all the ins and outs of renting or buying after graduation. It begins at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room 4 A&B of the Management Resource Complex.

The program will be led by Thomas Pope '70, president of Century 21 Twin Realty in East Hartford, Connecticut. Although designed principally for seniors, it is open to all students.

For more information on the program, call the Office of Alumni Relations at ext. 6040.

## Dates to note or not

A select list of annual events you may want to celebrate over the next two weeks. Taken from "Chase's Annual Events."

*Monday, March 3*

**National Procrastination Week begins:** To promote the benefits of relaxing through putting off until tomorrow everything that need not be done today.

**National Anthem Day:** To celebrate the day in 1931 when President Hoover signed the bill making the Star-Spangled Banner the U.S. national anthem.

*Sunday, March 9*

**Fun Mail Week begins:** To share letter enthusiasm and encourage letter fun.

*Tuesday, March 11*

**Johnny Appleseed Day:** To commemorate the planter of orchards, friend of wild animals, who died March 11, 1847.

## Like father, like son?



*He may never reach the basketball heights of his father, David Sorafine '76, a 1000-point scorer and All-American at Bryant, but young Dave is sure to get a lot of help, as this photo attests. Sorafine was one of the former Bryant basketball stars who returned for the annual alumni game in February. It preceded games by the men and women on the same day. Approximately 25 former players returned for the game.*

# QUICKLY

...**Howard Kay**, executive director for corporate and community affairs, has been elected to the board and executive committee of the new Rhode Island Technology Council. The 44-member organization is expected to emerge as the state's leader in this area. Bryant is one of 13 charter companies and institutions setting up the council over the past six months...

...for the next three years, **Christiana Raether**, assistant director of financial aid, will serve as the Rhode Island representative to the financial aid division executive committee for the New England regional assembly of The College Board. The post is a liaison between the state's aid administrators and The College Board...

...The February issue of "AGB (Association of Governing Board) Reports" carries an article by **President O'Hara** on the responsibility of trustees to insure the ethical operation of intercollegiate athletics. Dr. O'Hara is a member of the NCAA Presidents' Commission dealing with college sports, and has become one of the groups most outspoken presidents...

...**Terry Johnson**, professor of finance, presents a paper he co-authored with **Hsi Li**, professor of finance, at the Southwest Financial Association convention in Dallas next week. The paper is titled "Stochastic Dominance to N Degrees versus the Moments Approach in Portfolio Risk Analysis"...

...**Joe Ilacqua**, associate professor of economics, presented a paper in mid-February that he co-authored with **Hsi Li** at a conference in Orlando. The paper is titled "Analysis of the Conflicting Roles of Academic Chairpersons"...

...**Richard Smith**, of the mathematics department, has been promoted to professor. He has been a full-time faculty member since 1975...

...**Bill Hill**, assistant professor of social sciences, provided commentary and analysis on Governor DiPrete's budget message to the legislature for WSBE-TV (Channel 36) on February 11. The public TV station carried live coverage of the address and Hill's comments before and after the message...

# CALENDAR

MONDAY, MARCH 3

**Human Relations Skills for New  
Managers and Supervisors**

Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

**SNEAC Dinner**  
Rhode Island Inn  
6 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6

**Business Writing for Results**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 10

**SPRING VACATION BEGINS**

**Introduction to Lotus 1-2-3**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

**Conducting the Needs Assessment**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

**How to Plan Effective Presentations**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

**How to Deliver Effective  
Presentations**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Making Symphony Work for You**  
Seminar  
The CENTER  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



## By the way...

By Gloria Yahn

- Frank Gathof of the faculty just got his private pilot's license. And according to WHJJ's "Spy in the Sky," Tony DiBiasio, who was Frank's teacher, "I've been kissing the ground ever since." What do you think he meant by that?

- I am inviting all students to stop by the Office of Public Information, located directly behind the switchboard operator, to fill out a student information card or to update one that you filled out some time ago. Having this information on hand insures that your local newspaper receives news releases about you. Examples are Dean's List, Delta Mu Delta, commencement awards, scholarship awards, commencement, etc. At the same time, it will give me an opportunity to meet many of you. If you have any questions or are unsure of what types of news I'm looking for, simply stop by and we'll chat.

- Seniors Evan Koppel and Steve Murphy have been elected to serve as senior senators. They replace Rita Sion and Michael Mariniello.

- Martin Andrews of the computer center recently became engaged to Jeanne Marchessault. They will marry on October 25.

- I thought it would be romantic to find out who got what for Valentine's Day. Most everyone got the same thing - candy, flowers, dinner out, a piece of jewelry, and so on. And then I stumbled into Ray Fogarty, who gave me a brief synopsis of his Valentine's Day. It seems he showered his wife, Phoebe, with a cake designed in the shape of a dozen roses, presented her with a box of chocolates, and gave her a card. And for all this, according to Ray, "All I got was stale Cadbury candy." Well it couldn't have been that bad, since he finished it over the weekend.

## New faces

| Name             | Title                          | Department     |
|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Holly Yagnesac   | Secretary                      | Admissions     |
| Lois Schillinger | Typist/<br>Accounting<br>Clerk | Physical Plant |
| Lucy Ferrante    | Part-time<br>Postal<br>Clerk   | Post Office    |

## Buildings rising inside cocoons



*Cocoons of plastic wrap Bryant's two new buildings as construction on them continues. Work on the new dormitory (below) continues pretty much on schedule for a fall opening. Construction of the Bryant Center (above) is behind schedule, although the building still will open sometime next fall. This interior shot gives you an idea of the amount of space being added to the campus.*